



inspire
careers LLC

student professional
launch program

PROGRAM FEEDBACK AND FULL TESTIMONIAL FROM MICHELLE AND JOE HELFER, COLIN HELFER'S PARENTS:

"We are writing to express our profound gratitude and whole-hearted endorsement for the Inspire Careers Student Professional Launch Program that we enrolled our son in from December 2022-March 2023.

The program exceeded our expectations in many ways. Like many parents, we assumed our bright, well-adjusted and ambitious young adult son had all the tools necessary to find a great position in his field of quantitative economics/finance after college (and also taking courses in grad school at Duke University) by using the services of the college's career placement office.

It was to our alarm and surprise that we found him instead totally unsure what he wanted to do next, or how go about finding a job, which led him uncharacteristically into a morass of anxiety, lethargy and defensive answers to our questions about his job search, which left us in a state of bewilderment.

Cathy first impressed us on our initial phone consultation, where her professionalism, intelligence and can-do attitude shined through as she patiently answered all our questions.

We immediately felt a weight lift off us as we began to see our son through her eyes as she explained the challenges that young adult job seekers face in today's world and the steps she would take to help him overcome those obstacles. She explained that he would respond better to an outside non-judgmental 3rd party such as herself to talk to and learn from.

But where Cathy really exceeded our expectations is that this not just another course or program that your child can skate through, but a living, breathing process, where Cathy is integrally involved every step of the way. Her main role was career coach, first, but her value-added appeal is that she was also our son's friend, cheerleader, networker, and a mom-figure who "gets it," but also expects accountability, follow through, and homework to be done. I don't know who was relieved more... us or our son!

Although the initial investment may at first appear to be substantial, when you consider all the tuition and time already spent on raising a child into young adulthood, it appeared that if she could achieve the end goal of helping him get a better job, faster, that it was an excellent ROI. And it was.

After initially working with him to take a remarkably accurate personality/career assessment test, she also got him up to speed on networking, computer technology and even just getting up on time to make it to meetings. She then proceeded to introduce him to a myriad of people in his field along with coaching him on interview skills.

That was to be expected. However, where Cathy excelled again was helping him craft the most unique yet compelling resume we'd ever seen. We believe that it helped get him noticed for interviews, which materialized in just a couple months, whereas attempting a lukewarm job search on his own had netted no interviews for 9 months and not even an idea where to apply.

Our son ultimately was equipped with the skills that he needed to discover a particular job position opening that he admits he never would have found on his own without the career search skillsets Cathy imparted to him. Once the interviews were scheduled, she practiced with him intensely and he ultimately got a wonderful job that he loves in his field and at the top of his salary range. All this within four months of hiring Cathy.

But the most important metamorphosis of all was incredulously watching our son in such a short time become more sure of himself, more talkative and friendly, and confident. All of a sudden, he was getting out of bed early, telling us what job-seeking tasks were on his list for the day, and even working out at the gym more. Once he was offered multiple interviews, he finally realized he really was deserving of and qualified for, a great job in his field.

This self-discovery process that Cathy helped him through was invaluable. As we told Cathy, she "got us our son back," and that alone was worth every penny for the program.

Therefore, we very highly recommend her Student Professional Launch Program without reservation. When we first hired her, we knew she was an intelligent, talented and motivated professional, but by the time we were done, we knew our son (and us) had a wonderful new friend."

-Michelle and Joe Helfer, parents of Colin Helfer